

Archeological Testing on the Proposed Route of Sewer Improvements
Hampton National Historic Site

The Mid-Atlantic Region of the National Park Service has proposed to connect the existing sewer system at Hampton National Historic Site to the municipal sewage system. The proposed line is to run from the north/northwest of the western extension of the mansion to the intersection of the entrance road and Hampton Lane, at the average depth of six feet at an average width of three feet. Total length of the proposed line is approximately 1000 feet (Figure 1).

Prior archeological investigation in the yard northeast of the mansion (Inashima 1990) determined that the cultural stratigraphy consisted of a thin layer of humic topsoil (Stratum A), followed by a layer of brown silty clay approximately 0.5 feet thick (Stratum B) which contained primarily eighteenth century artifacts. The third stratum, Stratum C, consisted of reddish-brown silty clay containing gravels. No artifacts were recovered from Stratum C soils within the two feet examined during the investigations (Ibid:64).

In consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer of the State of Maryland, the National Park Service determined that testing intervals of twenty-five feet along the undisturbed portion of the proposed construction corridor would identify any significant archeological resources that might be present (106 Effect Report: 3). On September 11, two archeologists from the Park Resource Preservation Division of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the National Park Service tested the proposed route of this line.

A total of twenty-three test units of approximately 0.8 feet diameter (Figure 1, blue corridor) were excavated. The soil profiles identified during the testing reflected those from previous archeological investigations (Appendix). No cultural resources were identified in this procedure from any of the tests.

Due to the lack of cultural features or materials recovered during the testing procedure, it is unlikely that construction will disturb unknown archeological resources. With the state's concurrence, construction will proceed accompanied by archeological monitoring by Region personnel.

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APPENDIX

Test #	Location	Stratigraphy
1	6 + 50	Surface to 0.8 = Humic topsoil 0.8 to 1.0 = Brown silty clay 1.0 = Reddish-brown silty clay
2	6 + 25	Surface to 0.5 = Humic topsoil 0.5 to 0.6 = Brown silty clay 0.6 = Rock
3	6 + 00	Surface to 0.6 = Humic topsoil 0.6 to 0.7 = Brown silty clay 0.7 = Rock
4	5 + 75	Surface to 0.2 = Humic topsoil 0.2 = Rock
5	5 + 50	Surface to 0.5 = Humic topsoil 0.5 to 0.8 = Brown silty clay 0.8 = Rock
6	5 + 25	Surface to 0.8 = Humic topsoil 0.8 = Rock
7	5 + 00	Surface to 0.4 = Humic topsoil 0.4 to 0.6 = Brown silty clay 0.6 = Rock
8	4 + 75	Surface to 0.5 = Humic topsoil 0.5 to 1.1 = Brown silty clay 1.1 = Rock
9	4 + 50	Surface to 0.4 = Humic topsoil 0.4 to 0.6 = Brown silty clay 0.6 = Rock
10	4 + 25	Surface to 0.6 = Humic topsoil 0.6 = Brown silty clay with dense rock
11	4 + 00	Surface to 0.3 = Humic topsoil 0.3 = Rock
12	3 + 75	Surface to 0.4 = Humic topsoil 0.4 = Rock
13	3 + 50	Surface to 0.8 = Humic topsoil 0.8 to 1.0 = Brown silty clay 1.0 = Rock
14	3 + 2S	Surface to 1.0 = Humic topsoil 1.0 to 1.1 = Brown silty clay 1.1 = Rock
15	3 + 00	Surface to 0.4 = Humic topsoil 0.4 to 0.7 = Brown silty clay

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		0.7 = Rock
16	2 + 75	Surface to 0.5 = Humic topsoil 0.5 to 0.6 = Brown silty clay 0.6 = Rock
17	2 + 50	Surface to 0.5 = Humic topsoil 0.5 = Dense gravel
18	2 + 25	Surface to 0.4 = Humic topsoil 0.4 = Dense gravel
19	2 + 00	Surface to 0.9 = Humic topsoil 0.9 to 1.1 = Brown silty clay 1.1 = Rock
20	1 + 75	Surface to 0.7 = Humic topsoil 0.7 to 0.8 = Brown silty clay 0.8 = Rock
21	1 + 50	No test, located in center of paved road
22	1 + 2S	Surface to 0.5 = Humic topsoil 0.5 to 0.7 = Brown silty clay 0.7 = Rock
23	1 + 00	Surface to 0.5 = Humic topsoil 0.5 to 0.7 = Brown silty clay 0.7 = Rock

References:

No author

1991 Agency Official 106 Effect Report. Mid-Atlantic Region. National Park Service. "Construct Sewer Line. Hampton Mansion. Hampton National Historic Site". United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office.

Inashima, Paul

1990 Archeological Investigations of the Hampton Mansion Subsurface Drainage and Cistern System 1979 and 1988 Seasons. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service Denver Service Center, Eastern Applied Archeology Center, Rockville, Maryland.